

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q76703

Sadato AKAHORI

Allowed: July 9, 2009

Appln. No.: 10/628,286

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5383

Examiner: Alex Kok Soon LIEW

Filed: July 29, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE PROCESSING

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REMARKS**

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability dated July 9, 2009. The Examiner's statement emphasizes certain aspects of the claims, but each claim should be interpreted using its own precise language, without inferring any particular emphasis from the Examiner's statement. The Examiner's statement should not be misinterpreted as meaning that the identified feature is the only patentable feature in any of the claims. The independent claims and the dependent claims also include various other aspects which provide a separate basis for patentability.

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the “Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed,” 1247OG111 (6/26/01), “a response to the examiner’s reasons for allowance” is an example of a paper that does “not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process” and is “not considered a ‘failure to engage in reasonable efforts’ to conclude processing or examination of the application.” Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated July 9, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 9, 2009

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